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EO 12958 3.4(b)(1)>25Yrs
(C)

TO WHITE HOUSE SITUATION ROOM

ATTN: MCGEORGE BUNDY ~~EYES ONLY~~

~~TOP SECRET~~ TOP SECRET ~~EYES ONLY~~

WHITE HOUSE SITUATION ROOM FOR MCGEORGE BUNDY ~~EYES ONLY~~

EYES ONLY MCGEORGE BUNDY [redacted]

EO 12958 3.4(b)(1)>25Yrs
(C)

Your msg of 17 April

1. REF A RESPONSE PLUNGED CHIANG CHING KUO AND GIMO INTO ANOTHER TROUGH OF DESPAIR AND MADE ME SWEAT BLOOD TRYING TO RESELL SEVEN POINTS AS SUBSTANTIALLY SAME AS THREE POINTS PERSONALLY OKAYED BY GIMO AS BASIS FOR RESCINDING JUNE TARGET DATE.

2. GIST OF MY ARGUMENT WHICH IS AS CLOSE TO INSTRUCTIONS AS POSSIBLE WITHOUT GIVING CHINESE VERBATIM TEXT AND WITHOUT SOUNDING TERRIBLY NEGATIVE WAS AS FOLLOWS:

A. DISCUSSION OF 13 APRIL IN DETAIL INCLUDING THREE POINTS MENTIONED IN THIS DISCUSSION REPORTED TO WASHINGTON.

B. USG HAS NO OBJECTION TO SUBSTANCE OF THREE POINTS INSOFAR AS IN HARMONY WITH SEVEN POINTS ON MAINLAND OPERATIONS ALREADY DECIDED UPON AND PRESENTED TO PRESIDENT CHIANG FROM PRESIDENT KENNEDY.

C. HOWEVER SEVEN POINTS EXPRESSED BY PRESIDENT KENNEDY MUST BE VIEWED AS BASIS OF U.S. POLICY ON MAINLAND OPERATIONS AND HAVE BEEN PASSED ON TO HIGH LEVEL OFFICIALS OF THE U.S. GOVERNMENT AS POLICY GUIDANCE. ANY OTHER VERBAL FORMULATION WOULD BE EITHER SUPERFLUOUS OR CONFUSING.

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D. PRESIDENT KENNEDY FEELS POSTPONEMENT OF THE OPERATION BY GRC TO 1 OCTOBER 1962 IS MOST APPROPRIATE BECAUSE IT WILL GIVE MORE TIME TO BOTH SIDES FOR JOINT STUDY OF CONDITIONS ON THE MAINLAND AND MUTUAL CONSULTATION ON DETAILED GRC PLANNING FOR FUTURE OPERATIONS AS WELL AS FOR STRENGTHENING FURTHER THE CAPABILITY FOR THE INITIAL DROP.

E. WITH REGARD TO THREE POINTS FOLLOWING ARE COMMENTS:

1. THE EXECUTION OR NON-EXECUTION OF AIR DROP CAN BE DECIDED ONLY AT TIME CLOSE TO THE TARGET DATE (1 OCT 62) AND MUST BE BASED UPON FEASIBILITY JOINTLY AGREED AT THAT TIME.

2. ATTENTION SHOULD BE GIVEN TO POINT FOUR OF "SEVEN POINTS" WHICH IS DURING THE NEXT SIX MONTHS STEP UP COLLECTION OF MAINLAND INFORMATION AND CARRY OUT PROBING ACTIONS IN ORDER TO OBTAIN MORE CONCRETE EVIDENCE SO AS TO INSURE WELL-FOUNDED DECISIONS AND SUCCESSFUL EXECUTION OF PLANS.

F. IN VIEW OF POLITICAL SENSITIVITY OF THE SUBJECT MR KENNEDY CANNOT AT THIS TIME MAKE ANY FORMAL AGREEMENT NOR ANY ADVANCE COMMITMENT ON INITIAL OR SUBSEQUENT MAINLAND OPERATIONS AND HOPES THAT PRESIDENT CHIANG WILL UNDERSTAND THIS. PRESIDENT KENNEDY ASSURES PRESIDENT CHIANG THAT SEVEN POINTS PRESENTED TO PRESIDENT CHIANG ARE ACCURATE EXPRESSION OF THE POLICY POSITION OF THE U.S. ON CHINA MAINLAND OPERATIONS.

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6. PRESIDENT KENNEDY WELCOMES THIS EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON HIGH LEVEL INITIATED BY PRESIDENT CHIANG AND WISHES FULLEST AND FRANKEST DISCUSSION OF THIS IMPORTANT SUBJECT SO AS TO INSURE A CONTINUING RELATIONSHIP OF CLOSEST CONFIDENCE AND UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN GRC AND UNITED STATES.

3. CHIANG CHING KUO TOLD ME TODAY 19 APR GIMO WILLING ACCEPT SEVEN POINTS AS BASIS CLOSE STUDY AND COOPERATION DURING NEXT FEW MONTHS. GIMO HAS AUTHORIZED GROUP SENIOR STAFF OFFICERS MEET TOMORROW FOR SECRET CHANNEL OFF-RECORD DISCUSSIONS IN WHICH FULL DISCLOSURE GRC CLANDESTINE AND MILITARY PLANS WILL BE MADE TO PERMIT AMERICANS TO CRITIQUE UNOFFICIALLY AS BASIS FOR FEASIBILITY ESTIMATES AND MAINLANDSITUATION STUDIES IN LIGHT OF CONTINUING DEVELOPMENTS FOR NEXT SIX MONTHS. THIS IS AWAITED VISIBLE SIGN INTENT TO PLAY BALL FOR PERIOD IMMEDIATELY AHEAD. WE ALSO HAVE [redacted] CONFIRMATION GIMO HAS DEFINITELY POSTPONED JUNE TARGET DATE FOR COUNTERATTACK PLANNING.

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4. FOR MOMENT SITUATION UNDER CONTROL BUT BELIEVE ME IT WAS CLOSE THING. COOPERATIVE RELATIONSHIP LIABLE COME UNSTUCK IF NOT GIVEN SYMPATHETIC ATTENTION THIS END AND TANGIBLE SIGNS OF ACTIVE INTEREST FROM WASHINGTON. AIRCREWS SHOULD GO TO TRAIN SOON AND WOULD BE HELPFUL IF HIGH-LEVEL CHINESE INVITED TO STATES TO EXAMINZATECHNICAL PROBLEMS OF ECM PREPARATION OF AIRCRAFT. IF YOU RECOMMENDSOU WANT TO GIVE BOOST TO FRIENDLY DISCUSSIONS

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HERE AT NO REAL COST BELIEVE IT WOULD BE MOST HELPFUL TO SEND ADDITIONAL MESSAGE STATING MORE THAN TWO C-123'S COULD BE MADE AVAILABLE IF JOINT STUDY PROVED THEIR NEED AND AIRDROP OPERATION JUDGED FEASIBLE. IT WAS MUCH RESENTED BY GINO AS NIGGARDLY APPROACH THAT TWO C-123'S WERE SPECIFIED WHEN HE HAD ASKED FOR FIVE AND USG HAD SAID IT WAS NOT FIRMLY COMMITTED TO GIVING ANY. IN OTHER WORDS GENEROSITY OF TERMS WOULD HAVE COST NOTHING BUT WE REFUSED EVEN THAT. SUGGEST AUTHORIZING STATEMENT RECOMMENDED ABOVE WITH SAVING COMMENT ONLY TWO PLANES CAN BE READY WITHIN SIX MONTHS.

5. MY DEPARTURE FOR WASHINGTON 20 APRIL SPELLS CLOSE THIS PHASE DISCUSSIONS. GINO GIVING ME AUTHOGRAPED PHOTO FOR PRESIDENT AND POLITE NOTE SUBSTANTIVE LETTER. BELIEVE WE HAVE COME OUT ~~REPEPBETTERVONBEUREK WE HAVE COME OUT~~ AS WELL AS POSSIBLE WITH INSTRUCTIONS YOU GIVE ME TO WORK WITH. HOPE THINGS STAY ON TRACK. THANKS FOR GOOD BACK-UP AS USUAL. SEE YOU SOON.

~~TOP SECRET~~ ~~EYES ONLY~~

CONFIDENTIAL

CC: PAR 4.

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